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F A C T S :

OR, A

Plain and Explicit NARRATIVE
OF THE
CASE of Mrs. R U D D.



Price TWO SHILLINGS.

H A C T S :

OR A

Play and Picture NARRATIVE

TO THE

CASE of Miss LUDDE

These TWO SHIFTINGS.

F A C T S :
OR, A
Plain and Explicit NARRATIVE
OF THE
C A S E of Mrs. R U D D.

Published from her own Manuscript, and by her Authority.
IN WHICH,
THE PARTICULAR TRANSACTIONS
OF
Messrs. P E R R E A U S ;
THE
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE
CONVERSATIONS AND CONSULTATIONS
OF
Mr. H ~~enry~~ D ~~agge~~

The IMPARTIAL VIEW of the CHARACTER of
Colonel —.
The ANSWER to Mr. DANIEL PERREAU's DEFENCE ;
And the Circumstantial Account of the PROCEEDINGS from
the TIME of COMMITMENT till this present HOUR
will be faithfully related ; and the *invidious* and *fillographic*
ARGUMENTS of a HIRELING refuted.

Truth needs no disguise nor ornament.

LONDON ; Printed and sold by T. BELL, No. 26, BELL-YARD, TEMPLE-BAR.

* * * *The many spurious publications of Mrs. RUDD's CASE, vamped from*
Press for mercenary views, would be a sufficient inducement for the following
Narrative ; but the unfair and artful methods made use of to prejudice the
public, demands a refutation of the many cruel and false aspersions thrown out
against her. Audi alteram Partem.

Entered at STATIONERS' HALL.

London: Printed for H. H. & C. T. BELL, No. 12, Strand.
1859. TENTER-BEAT.

ESTATE OF MARY E. HALL

P R E F A C E.

IT is with much reluctance, I lay before the world the following Narrative, as it exposes the unfortunate men, whose fate, as a Christian, I lament; and as once being a tenderly beloved husband, and esteemed brother, I could *yet* wish to spare from further reproach; but the situation to which their machinations have reduced me, and the injurious false

false accusations contained in their defence, compel me to vindicate myself, by giving a fair, true detail of facts, and by so doing submit my case to the candid, judicious public; in full confidence of **THEIR** impartial justice and generous indulgence to the weakness of a woman; the rectitude of whose own heart, naturally made her unsuspicuous of fraud or falsehood in others. Betrayed by specious professions and apparent honour, and by the irresistible influence of the tenderest affection, I fatally confided my **FAME**, my **FORTUNE**, and **HAPPINESS** to Mr. Perreau; who in return, has, with unexampled

ampled baseness and black ingratitude, robbed me of ALL those inestimable blessings, and consigned me to irreparable misery, and the most cruel, undeserved misfortunes.

I shall be as concise as possible, and only relate circumstances pertinent to the matter in question, with indispensable remarks. **T R U T H** is my subject. My stile is as simple as my story; equally free from sophistical positions and logical arguments. In one word, I have not the **INVENTION** of a Perreau, nor the elegant pen of a K---y, to decorate my defence; I trust entirely to plain told unadorned **TRUTHS** and con-

conscious INNOCENCE : supported by them, I feel a fortitude, a ray of hope, which inspires me with expectation, that my Case will meet with the credit its strict veracity deserves ; and in consequence regain me that justice and reputation which the wicked combinations and falsehoods of *self-interested* enemies at present deprive me of.

M. C. R U D D.

THE

THE
C A S E
O F
Mrs. R U D D,
AS RELATED BY HERSELF.

THE conspiracy formed against my life by Messrs. Perreaus ; the detainer of all my wearing apparel, and every other part of my property ; that is to say, jewels, plate, china, household linen, and furniture, whereby I am left totally destitute, with three children, of even the common necessaries of life, will, I hope, be considered by the world a just cause for my laying before them the following narrative of facts, which nothing less than the injuries I have sustained could extort from me.

There is a certain sort of people whose censure I ever did, and ever shall, consider the highest praise. The wickedness and infamy of my accusers deeds, and their whole treatment of, and behaviour to me, will best speak my innocence and their guilt.

C A S E.

When I declared on my examination, that Mr. D. Perreau has had 13,000l. of my money, besides plate and jewels, I spoke within the sum I really possessed; rather chusing to say it was less, than more. How that sum has been expended, I will, as well as I can, recollect,—truly and unreservedly relate.

First, at the time of the convention, Mr. Perreau lost in Change-Alley 1300l. which loss I paid.

In March following, paid Mr. Portis, broker, 800l. which stock Mr. Robert Perreau managed in Daniel's absence.

Spent that summer, in Paris, during our residence there, 700l.

I gave Mr. Daniel Perreau, in autumn, 1771, 1400l. which he told me he gave Messrs. Keeble and Sadlier, insurance-brokers, to insure the war. I understood Mr. Sadlier afterwards, that the whole premiums were lost: * that had he gained, the profits were to be equally shared with Robert Perreau and Colonel —. I gave him at different times, to pay his various private debts, not less than 1000l.

Paid his sister Susan and Esther Perreau, at sundry times, 800l. which sum he had from me, to pay them a debt contracted prior to my knowledge of him.

* It was the agreement of their jobbing transactions, that Daniel paid all losses, but Robert to have half the profits which he always had, unless at those times when Colonel — had the third share of them.

I also gave him to pay Mr. Fakney, of John-Street, Clerkenwell, 300l. which sum I paid, but found out afterwards, that he paid Mr. Fakney at different times, and that his bond was less than 300l. It was given him by Mr. D. Perreau, prior to his bankruptcy, and for a loss in the Alley. In April 1772, he came to me one evening where I was on a visit, he appeared much afflicted, and told me that he was greatly distressed for 500l. to pay Messrs. Gemmels, of the city, who had arrested him some months before, and his brother with another friend had bailed him; that the bail was out, and consequently his brother answerable; conjured me to assist him, to prevent the trouble this affair must give to all his family, and begged my pardon for deceiving me in the preceding November, when he had got from me 400l. to pay that very debt, but had used it other ways; the said 400l. I have included in the 1000l. I charge his private debts with. I felt the cruelty and unfeeling injustice of this conduct towards me, and answered with the warmest remonstrances and reproach; said, I had no money, nor would I give any; he then asked for my jewels, vowed he would have the money some way or other, upon which I threw him the key of my jewel-box, and said, if you are so totally lost to principle, and regard for me, as to prevail upon yourself to pledge my jewels, you may; or words to that effect. He did pawn them with one Brown, a pawnbroker; I afterwards redeemed them of Mr. Cates, of Little Bedford-Street, in the Strand; Cates had them from Brown on his quitting business. They were pledged for 515l. Mr. Gemmel's bond, I heard, with interest, was

only 470l. given for a loss in the Alley. In autumn, 1772, I gave him money to pay Mr. Elliot, a laceman, of Tavistock-Street, for a woman who goes by the name of Miss Hill,* and which he made me then believe he had received from Mr. O----- for her use, but was necessitated to use it for his own private purposes ; and begged me to reimburse, to prevent her exposing him to Mr. O-----. In December, 1772, when I went to Scotland, I left with him in cash fifteen hundred pounds, and one hundred and fifty to pay for our coach then building—1650l.--- which money was all lost in stock-jobbing in my absence ; also, on my return I found the greatest part of the plate and my wearing apparel pawned. I was obliged to borrow seventy pounds from Mr. Stewart, a first cousin of mine, (who came from Scotland with me) to redeem my cloaths and plate, untill I could call in some money of my own. I gave Mr. Daniel Perreau that summer to pay Mr. Greenfield, the broker, four hundred pounds ; and likewise Mr. Sapertas the Jew, one hundred and fifty pounds, 550l. Paid the entire expences of house-keeping, family, and personal expences of all sorts, for near four years, which must, I think, at the lowest calculation amount to 3500l.

There is besides the above account, the board, education, clothes, &c. of the aforesaid Miss

* That Miss Hill lived with, and is the reputed sister of the late notorious Lucy Cells, whom fame reported was kept by the before-mentioned Mr. O-----, and from thence I presume arose Mr. D. Perreau's intimacy with, and care of this reputable person.

Hill, which he constantly paid and remitted to Mr. La Roche, of St. Omer, in France, for a year and half after my living with him, under the pretext that he did it for Mr. O-----, and that he himself was only the ostensible donor; also the many expensive presents, money, and other things, he made to Colonel -----, and all and every part of his own family, during the first four years; which transactions, presents, and expences, were paid for with, and from my money, which I can aver, and will, if required, make oath of.

From the above facts, it must appear he had from me, and of mine, what I have therein specified. I cannot pretend to exactly ascertain the sum it cost in house-keeping, therefore may have calculated more or less than it really was. I beg to observe, that during the time mentioned, he sold, at different periods, jewels of mine to a considerable amount, which will stand against answering the expences, transactions, &c. which I can affix no certain charge to.

Nothing less than the evident premeditated conspiracy of Messrs. Perreaus against my life, and Daniel's most dishonourable, unexampled wickedness, and disowning my being his wife, thereby disgracing me and his infants, and reducing us to beggary, could have extorted from me any exposure, or word, that would even tend to defame or hurt him; but wrongs like mine, strike too deeply at every human feeling to be borne with silent resignation. Nature and reason call upon me to explain my injuries, and by giving a true, candid, and attested account of myself and conduct,

duct, submit my justification to the generous impartial public.

The numerous false calumnies industriously propagated by the Perreau's family, and their adherents, I pledge myself to refute as soon as I am able to recollect and recover myself a little more, from the extreme shock my mind has so recently suffered. My story is very simple, easily told, and as easily proved. My motives for confiding my honour, person, and fortune, to Mr. Perreau, were founded on the most tender faithful affection for him, and the delicate powerful sense I felt of the duty I owed him as his wife, (for as such I ever have considered myself and acted), and the unbounded confidence I had in his mutual love, integrity, and honour. My eyes were opened to his want of all these sentiments, when too late to retreat from him, without exposing myself and children to reproach and indigence.--- A dreadful alternative to chuse; happy, however, would it have been for me had I embraced it; I should then have escaped the snare laid for my life, the horrors and shame of a prison, and the more excruciating misery of being exposed like a Criminal at the bar of Justice; the inexpressible anguish of such a situation, is more easily conceived than expressed; indeed no language could give an adequate idea of my feelings; let those who possess nice sensibilities, a genteel mind, and feeling heart, judge of, and pity me.

Mrs. Robert Perreau may recollect I have often said, that I could forgive an injury, but not an intended insult; therefore her affecting now to be affronted at my being introduced to, and living with her in the familiar intercourse of a sister-in-law,

law, together with the vile falsehoods she reports of my having lived with a gentleman, and tricking him (that is her elegant phrase) out of considerable sums, is both weak and wicked; she knew I was not married to her brother. I think it her highest merit to say, she did, and that her heart and head were good enough to overcome a single prejudice in my favour; who from her knowledge of every circumstance relative to me and my conduct, even from my birth to that period, must be convinced I was justly intitled to her greatest respect and esteem. The daughter of a man of fashion, nobly descended and as nobly allied as I am, could be no degrading alliance to any family; to so private a one as theirs it certainly was a very great honour. The gentleman she has mentioned me with in so false and scandalous a manner, will, as a man of honour and veracity, publicly declare at a proper time the intire falsity of this malicious contemptible aspersion.

It has been erroneously said in the newspapers, that on my examination I declared myself the daughter of a Scotch Nobleman; I never said, or intimated the like (and beg it may be contradicted) I am the daughter of an untitled man of fashion in the real and true signification of the word, and am infinitely too proud even to wish myself descended from any other family than that which I have the honour to derive my birth from, being convinced there are very few so noble---none more.

Did I wish myself revenged of the Perreaus, I should be amply so in the base, contemptible falsities, they daily propagate and get conveyed to the public by anonymous letters. Such conduct must

must to every intelligent person shew them and their cause in a true light : I assure them, with the utmost sincerity that I despise their base machinations, and pity the shocking depravity of their hearts. Poor mistaken people ! What pains they take to expose themselves ! I do, and ever must, with the keenest anguish, lament my credulity and misfortune in having confided the most inestimable blessings in life ; honour and fortune, to a man, who in return to such exalted generosity and faith, the purest, the most unbounded affection, has, with unparalleled villainy, and black ingratitude, combined against my life ; plotted to bring me to an ignominious death, in a mode, and for reasons which humanity must shudder at, and what one should imagine the most hardened villain could not have been bad enough to put in practice ; defamed me and his children ; reduced us to indigence and irreparable misery. The discerning, good part of mankind will best characterize and judge of this conduct, while conscience, (a faithful monitor) will, I doubt not, yet wound him deeply for the wrongs he has loaded me with. “ A guilty mind needs no accuser ;” to that and his own reflections I confign him.

I have always said that I never thought Daniel Perreau, a man of fortune. When we came together, he told me his income was 300 l. a year, (the principal lodged in the funds) ; this inferiority of fortune gave me pleasure, as it afforded me an opportunity of proving the disinterestedness of my attachment, and the supreme felicity of obliging him, by a delicate, well-timed generosity. The manner more than the gift confers the obligation. My feelings on this point have ever

Ever been so refined, that while he preserved even the shadow of decorum in his frequent calls for money, I studied to know his wants to relieve them unasked, and thereby spare his and my own sensibility the pain of discussing so unpleasing a topic. In his happiness I placed mine; I therefore valued fortune but in proportion as it contributed to his ease and credit.

From the moment we lived together, I considered myself in every sense his wife, (there was a reason why it was impossible for us to be married) and practised the virtues and duties of one in the fullest sense. I defy the most rigid nicety to point out any instance or action in my conduct, wherein I was not the affectionate, faithful wife; the tender, good mother; the generous friend, and respected acquaintance.

Whilst I was charged with domestic matters, (which was near four years) I managed our family with great frugality; attempted no parade nor finery beyond the reach of my finances, and paid all trades-people within my department, punctually; nor can malice itself disprove what I hear assert, or any part of my story. Truth and incontrovertible facts will ever prevail over falsehood and fabricated scandal; upon that solid basis I found and rest my justification. I am not the first woman of character, who, (without being an ideot) has been deceived by specious professions and appearances, or suffered the tenderest of all sentiments to subdue her reason, and lull her prudence; but I believe, I am the only one who ever was treated with such unmerited treachery, hypocrisy, and cruel wickedness; let me hope,

for the honour of human nature, that there does not exist another Daniel Perreau.

In a former letter I have given a true account of all money matters which belonged to me, or that I was any way concerned in; I shall now proceed to a detail of what I know of the Perreaus, at the time, and since they have received me as Daniel's wife, 'till which period I saw none of them except Robert, him I scarcely spoke to, having conceived a mean opinion of him from his stock-jobbing with my property (as I have before mentioned); conscious of my superiority, and that whenever it was convenient for me to reveal myself, they must see and feel them and their brother: I was quite indifferent about what their ideas might be, in my concealed state.

Near the conclusion of Summer, 1772, I first acquainted my uncle Stewart of my situation with Mr. Perreau; upon which he immediately wrote me, representing in the most affecting, parental terms, the imprudent impropriety of my attachment, that should it ever, from design or chance, be discovered an illicit connection, the disgrace it would reflect on me; that my fortune being independent, and sufficient to support me in elegance, I was totally inexcusable; and unless I made myself an alien and outcast for ever to my friends and family, I must instantly determine either to quit Mr. Perreau and return to my family, or declare ourselves married; in either case, he would be reconciled to, and receive me with respect.

At this period I was a mother, part of my fortune squandered, my heart still devoted to Daniel, to which the forcible endearing tie of father to my child, contributed much; therefore, maternal duty,

duty, love and discretion, fixed my choice of the latter.

Agreeable to this, I went to Edinburgh, in December 1772, where my uncle Stewart and his family met me; there I not only saw, and was caressed by my relations, but also acquired many friends, persons of the first sense and consequence, whom I can take upon me to aver, both respected and loved me; nor can I suppose they will now do otherwise, as their esteem arose from a knowledge of the excellencies of my heart and disposition, and what they were pleased to term the amiableness of my manners; qualities, which neither villainy nor misfortune can rob me of.

The losses incurred in the stocks in my absence, and the distressful situation I found Mr. Perreau in at my return, in consequence of them, drove me almost to distraction. A mere trifle, comparatively speaking, of my fortune now remained. Indigence and shame stared me in the face. In short, I was every way ruined. For after the step I had just taken with my family, on what pretext could I separate from Mr. Perreau? And how could he maintain me and our children? (we then had two). At last, as the only thing to be devised, he agreed, on my paying certain debts, which would preserve his credit, that with the residue he would commence stock-broker. However, this plan required time to negotiate and put in practice, especially as he proposed going into partnership with some established one.* Humiliating as this must appear to a woman of elegance, cruel necessity not only obliged me to assent, but view it in an advantageous light, as a resource from penury and reproach.

It is a well known truth, that the sufferings of the mind will powerfully affect the body: this was my case. A series of afflicting events had, ever since my living with Mr. Perreau, tortured, and kept me in a state of distressing agitation, which gradually impaired my health. I was much indisposed all that summer, (1773.) In the latter end of August he went to Paris with two gentlemen, (as he said) on purpose to form an intimacy with them, whereby he should be furnished with undoubted good intelligence to jobb upon; likewise to settle a plan of correspondence there with some private friends of his.

In his absence, a relation, who knew me from my infancy, came to visit me; a man of fine sense, great experience, intelligent and penetrating; he told me Mr. Perreau's real circumstances, his character, and whole conduct. This was the very first intimation I ever had of his bankruptcy: In one word, he fully proved, that Daniel had made a prey of my money to gamble and fortune-hunt with; that during the first two years of our connection, he particularly addressed three ladies of considerable fortunes, which he and his family had practised every possible art and means to succeed with. Admonished me to exert myself, " as I
 " was now his declared wife, known universally
 " as such, and to have henceforth a proper inter-
 " course with his family, which would effectually
 " prevent any of the like attempts in future.
 " Being so nicely circumstanced, I must endea-
 " vor to forget the past, and make the best of
 " evils I could not redress. To effect which, it
 " was absolutely proper to be no longer duped by
 " his artifices; to see with mine own eyes, and

“ act from the dictates of my own reason.” Shocked and amazed beyond expression at these discoveries, I was deprived of the power of utterance, and could only thank my kind adviser with tears. Roused now to examine as far as possible into P.’s affairs, I looked in the drawer which contained his private papers, there I saw his certificate signed the 4th of May, 1770, and many other things that convinced me fully of the truths I had just heard. This piercing stroke entirely destroyed the little health I had, and hurried me into a dangerous consumption. Robert P. at this period came often to see me, though prejudiced in his disfavour, from the cause I have before assigned: upon a more intimate acquaintance, I found him sensible and well-bred; the world spoke him a man of integrity and discretion, much esteemed, and of great reputation in his profession.

I therefore, without hesitation, gave him a candid, circumstantial detail of every thing relative to myself and his brother; I even related what had happened between Mr. Rudd and me; his profligacy, insanity, and the personal abuses I received from him, which occasioned our final separation. He seemed much affected at the melancholy recital, and with apparent sincerity, replied, “ He was infinitely surprised, nay, shocked, at his brother’s behaviour, which was highly reprehensible; that Daniel Perreau had always been so reserved about me, that though he saw there was somewhat unusual and mysterious in the connection, he restrained his curiosity, and avoided asking any questions of him upon the subject.”

He

He protested, with regard to money transactions Daniel had given him to understand, he made a capital sum at the convention of Falkland islands; of course, he thought it was the said money he played with, and lived upon from that time to this; assured me of his best services, and that he would express his sentiments very freely to Daniel, and endeavour to bring him to a just sense of the respect and grateful affection due to me; likewise consult his wife how to account for our marriage being so long a secret, to prevent impertinent furmises. This behaviour very justly impressed me with the best opinion of the goodness of his heart and understanding.

From that moment, until the affair of the bond, and the conspiracy against my life, I felt for him the greatest esteem and sisterly affection, upon all occasions. Till then he discovered the like for me; treated me with so much tenderness and attentive care in my illnes; spoke every where so handsomely of me, that I really would have done any thing that could not touch my life or honour, to oblige and serve him.

I likewise, till the late affair, found Mrs. Perreau extremely amiable, sincere, and unaffected. Exclusive of relationship, I greatly esteemed and loved her; and we lived on the most friendly terms: how she now prevails upon herself to propagate detestable and indelicate untruths, is a species of mean depravity in her which exceedingly surprises me.

When D— P— returned from France, the beginning of October, I was so ill, that Dr. Brooke advised the country air, and strict regimen, as the only means to save me. We went to Kentish Town,

Town, staid there till near Christmas. Here Daniel shewed much contrition for his past errors; made the most solemn protestations of an entire reformation; expressed such tender sorrow for my sufferings and indisposition; attended, watched over me with such affectionate assiduity, that I forgot every thing disagreeable, and only thought of, and felt his present goodness. But this happiness soon vanished.

I continued dangerously ill all the Winter. The 25th of April, 1774, I was delivered of my youngest child. As soon as I could be safely removed, it was judged absolutely requisite, for the benefit of my health, to go into the country. I proposed for us to hire a small ready furnished house, sufficient to lodge ourselves and children decently. This humble proposal did not suit his consummate vanity, and ill-judged, ridiculous extravagance. He answered me with a good deal of acrimony, That while he had been dependent upon my fortune, he submitted to my governing our domestic expences, and stile of living; but that being now entirely independent of me, he would please himself; that he was in a prosperous certain way of acquiring a considerable fortune; therefore was resolved to spend and live like a man of affluence. From this speech I very naturally concluded, he was at last possessed of what he had been in pursuit of for years, viz. good political information, whereby he would not fail of realizing the riches he spoke so confidently of; every one, who knows any thing of 'Change-Alley, knows that numbers have, and actually do, make

make fortunes out of it. Upon this assurance I remained satisfied of its being really the case; consequently, whatever expences he engaged in since, did not surprize, nor could not appear mysterious to me. The scheme of turning broker of course ceased.

The remaining part of my case I shall postpone, as it must be chiefly on a subject so interesting to the Meffrs. P----- (viz. their whole behaviour to, and conversation with me from the day Mr. Drummond made the discovery, to the time I was brought to Sir John Fielding's;) therefore I defer it from motives of compassion, and a fervent sincere wish to avoid saying or doing ought which might possible prejudice them in the minds of the public (or appear to aim at so doing) previous to their trial.

What I have hitherto related had no connection with this last unhappy affair, being merely an explicit true account of myself and conduct, prior to the exposure of that matter, and to prove, by demonstrated facts, how falsely my enemies represent me, and how undeservedly I am persecuted and traduced by them. Such people may be justly termed the assassins of reputation, who, like Milton's serpent, envious of superior goodness and happiness, plan to destroy, and endeavour to make the world think others are as bad as themselves.

I know at this moment the Perreaus are concerting abominable falsehoods, whereby they hope to blacken my character, and devising every possible scheme to further distress and ruin me; yet, for the reasons assigned, even this, added

to my former most cruel injuries, shall not make resentment prevail over the tender, powerful sense I have of humanity and lenity even to my inveterate foes; I trust in God I shall ever have strength of mind sufficient to practise towards them these virtues.

M. C. RUDD.

ЭВИТАЯАИ

10

CASE.

and "I must go home before sunset, and
to have any more driving time would be
unsafe for you to push it home. I think
I have to leave at 7 PM, and you will have
to get home from me at 6 PM."

THE CANADIAN JOURNAL OF

NARRATIVE.

IN the beginning of March, 1769, Mr. Rudd and I finally separated. His insanity and personal abuse obliged me to have recourse to the law for protection; and he, in consequence of that, soon left the kingdom; an event I was not acquainted with till some months after. Under the strongest apprehensions of his repeating his violences, should he discover my retreat; to elude his enquiries, and the more effectually to conceal myself, I assumed another name, and fixed upon that of Gore. My intimacy with, and confidence in, a lady, whose real name that was, chiefly occasioned my choice of it, and it answered my view perfectly well;

for she often prevented my being discovered by Mr. Rudd and his emissaries, by appearing herself to answer to the name. Trivial as this anecdote may appear, it has given rise to many capital, and even vexatious mistakes since that period. There is people, who, upon reading this, will immediately comprehend what the circumstances are which I allude to ; and it will also explain to others, what may have hitherto appeared to them a profound mystery. Friendship, and a proper respect to parties, forbids my being more explicit on this subject.

In the latter part of summer, 1769, a friend died, who, in consideration of the unmerited ill treatment I had received from Mr. Rudd, and my being left by him unprovided for, bequeathed me 13,000 l. and 3000 l. more to purchase jewels, plate, and furniture ; in all 16,000 l.

This legacy was ordered by the donor to be paid me by instalments, and at distant specified times, (and accordingly was) with an annuity of 600 l. per annum, untill the whole was discharged ; the annuity decreasing in proportion as the legacy was paid off.

In October 1769, the trustee waited upon me, and paid me one year's full annuity (as the first payment of the bequest was not to take

take place till that time twelvemonth.) In these circumstances, and entitled to the said fortune, I first saw Mr. Perreau; our acquaintance commenced on, or near the year 1770, and our union took place the 20th of May, 1770, fifteen days after his certificate of bankruptcy was signed. Therefore must observe, that had my finances been straitened (which they certainly were not) it could not then be in his power to assist me, as he falsely asserts he did, and with such a sum too as 400 l.

In the former part of my case, I have most faithfully and circumstantially related how the fortune I brought Mr. Perreau has been expended; I shall, now with the same explicit candor unfold every other material transaction within my knowledge which has happened since the commencement of our connection.

At that time Mr. Perreau told me his income was about three hundred a year, the principal lodged in the funds, which he could not touch; of course until some part of my legacy was received, we had no money to purchase furniture, &c. &c. with: therefore agreed to remain in the interim, in our seperate lodgings. We spent this Summer in uninterrupted harmony and tranquil bliss: our affections seemed mutually tender and sincere; mine was truly so. Mr. Perreau is a

man

man of sense, (and when he chuses) very engaging in his manners : in these happy days, I had no opportunity to espy any defects in his temper or conduct ; on the contrary, he appeared every thing, a rational, virtuous, and delicate woman could wish. Let me also do him the justice, to say, that, in those spaces of time in which he held no particular intimate, frequent intercourse with his brother and family, or Colonel ---- ; he was good humoured and consistent, apparently a tender husband and fond father ; but, whenever Change-Alley busines was on foot, his brother or the Colonel engrossed his attention, he became captious, inconsistent, and unprincipled. I desire to be understood, that, when I say UNPRINCIPLED, I only mean that he was so respecting me. For in his dealings with the world, I ever held him a strictly honest man, and never knew or heard of ought that was otherwise till the affair of the bond presented to Messrs. Drummonds, and the discoveries which has since followed.

Before I proceed farther, it may be requisite to observe, that, Mr. Perreau very far from being the CREDULOUS, UNSUSPICIOUS man, he represents himself, is, INCREDULOUS and SUSPICIOUS to excess, so much so, that many of our severest disputes has arisen from this disposition of his, and he ever was of so prying a turn, that,

not

not a look, or the most trifling thing I did escaped his observation and inspection, nor, a letter, message, or person came to me throughout the year if he was in the way, or heard of, but what he opened, inquired into, or spoke to-----and as some part of my family never was well affected towards him, I was from this prying curiosity of his compelled to have their letters to me addressed to a friend's house, and always answered them in my retired moments. A circumstance which may have occasioned the observation, that I wrote frequently when Mr. Perreau was absent, for, had I wrote in his presence I should had no peace unless he read the letters.

I dont pretend even to guess why he was thus inquisitive; I attributed it to a natural foible of temper which had no particular meaning, and what perhaps he could not himself account for; however, this alone plainly demonstrates the improbability if not IMPOSSIBILITY of those deceptions he is pleased to accuse me with.

In the latter part of October, 1770, upon our return home one evening, we were infinitely surprized and shocked to hear Mr. Rudd had called there: I instantly quitted the house. Mr. Perreau next day took lodgings for me at Mr. Temple's, of Parliament-street, saying, " I was a lady who required being private

private for a few weeks, on account of a law-suit." At this time, I received 4000l. the first payment of the legacy, and upon that immediately bespoke and purchased plate and other articles to commence house-keeping with. Mr. Perreau at the same time treated for a ready furnished house of Mr. Jameson's in Pall-Mall Court, but he not knowing Mr. Perreau (nor on inquiry could hear he was a man of property) declined letting it, until a lady whom he applied to for information, assured him I was a woman of fortune, upon which the treaty was concluded, and we went into the house a fortnight before Christmas and resided there four years.

My apprehensions relative to Mr. Rudd now ceased, and two months afterwards he finally left the kingdom.

I continued the name of Gore till autumn 1772, and to our acquaintance and servants assigned for reason, that I was obliged to retain it for a certain time on account of a bequest. This indeed was truth, though not the whole truth; and the reason why I did not take Mr. P.'s name at first was, my family would from that have discovered the connection, a matter which required time and very delicate precautions to inform them of, and reconcile them to. Likewise the trustee who paid the legacy, undoubtedly would have severely censured me for so impro-
per

per an attachment; nay, probably resented my imprudence to the prejudice of my fortune; for his trust was not only highly confidential, but, in some measure, discretionary, and he had my interest and happiness much at heart. Added to this, I confess, I felt myself for a long time unable to acquaint him with my folly, fearing reproof, and conscious I deserved it, especially from the entrusted friend of the generous donor, who with a view to make me independent, affluent, and happy, bequeathed me so noble a fortune.

The indiscreet use I made of this distinguished favor, is at once my reproach and misfortune.

Having in the former part of my case given a full detail of stock and money matters, I shall here pass over them: * nothing else material occurred this winter. In March 1771, a FAMILY AFFAIR, with a desire of amusement, carried us to Paris; there I first saw Colonel -----, whom I had heard Mr. Perreau often mention as his intimate friend. As this gentleman has a considerable share in the following narrative, and has made so conspicuous a figure as a WRITER and EVIDENCE in the Perreau cause, it is both requisite and a-pro-pos, to give his history and character, as far as information and observation enables me.

He

* *Vide page second of the Case.*

He was born in Ireland; but has been in the French service since his youth: While a lieutenant, several years ago, the late Lord Barrymore, in one of his lordship's excursions to Paris, met with him at a gaming table, and brought him over with him, on his return to London, in the *humble* style of -----

During his residence here Count Garcia, then the French ambassador at this court, having seen and conversed with him (as being a French officer) perceived he possessed talents calculated for the business of the embassy, accordingly received Mr. ----- into his service, in the honourable quality of a -----, in which capacity he officiated, and acquitted himself so much to his master's satisfaction, that he recommended and consigned him to Count Chatelet, who succeeded his excellency in the ambassadorship. To borrow a simile from the Bath Guide, extremely applicable to Mr. -----, he is

" For ever intent on increasing his store;
 " And always keeps SHUFFLING and CUTTING for more."

With this industrious propensity, and a genius to avail himself of opportunities, and others credulity, he betook his way to Change-Alley, where he formed connections with a considerable junto of stock-jobbers who esteemed him an ORACLE from his address

E and

and situation with the French ambassador; a circumstance I have often heard him descant upon, and boast of. The Perreaus were of this junto; and from thence arose the intimacy and jobbing connection which has ever since subsisted betwixt them. In the year 1769, government took so **MUCH NOTICE** of Mr. -----, that he saw it prudent to make a precipitate retreat, and passed over from Dover to Calais in an open boat. However, his services to his masters got him preferred, and, in the course of a couple of years, from thence he was raised to his present rank, a Colonel in the I---- B----. The happy facility he possesses, of adapting himself to **HUMOURS, TIMES, and SITUATIONS**, obtains him an apartment in the hotels, and a plate at the Tables of several persons of fashion in France; a distinction which *serves* him in many instances in the lower walks of life, examples of which, in the course of this detail, will be seen.

A few days after our arrival at Paris, the Colonel flew to embrace his *dear* friend Perreau, loaded him with flattery, and displayed his own self-imagined importance. He viewed me with visible curiosity, and I imagine my looks shewed no approbation of his manners nor conversation; for ever after he appeared to think me "*much in his way,*" and assiduously sought opportunities to be alone with

with Mr. Perreau, who often asked me in private how I liked his friend, to which I was deaf, or gave slight replies. The fact is, I perceived from his own conversations and accounts of himself, that he was a consummate hypocrite; and I saw a designing plausibility in all his behaviour to Mr. Perreau, whom he influenced at pleasure. There is no person without their foibles. Excessive vanity, and an unhappy passion for speculating in the alley, were Mr. Perreau's prevailing ones; and the colonel knew how to play upon and take advantage of each, or both, just as it suited his purpose.

We left Paris early in June; previous to our departure, the colonel borrowed a hundred louis, and a regular plan of political correspondence was fixed, and agreed for the colonel to have his third of the profits (as Robert Perreau had) but Daniel to pay all losses. Agreeable to this extraordinary proceeding, the immense losses Daniel sustained in the alley cannot be wondered at.

On our return to London, Mr. Perreau had a putrid fever and sore throat; his brother attended him in a physical capacity. This was the first time I ever spoke to him. On the 30th of July 1771, I was delivered of my eldest child. During my recess, I understood the brothers were very much together, a circumstance

circumstance unusual in those days, for Robert had been but once at our house before his brother's illness, and that was to dun him for 60 l. Daniel owed him previous to our union ; and was the incident which occasioned my disgust to Robert, till his dissimulation and specious professions of esteem and respect for me, excited for him a return of those sentiments on my part.

In the autumn, Doctor Brooke hinted to me that the Perreaus were scheming a marriage for Daniel with the widow P---h, now lady L...* I gave no credit then to this story, and only laughed at the idea, having an implicit faith and unlimited confidence in Mr. Perreau's affection and honor, and really conceived it impossible for any man, (in the character of a gentleman) to entertain a thought of such a base, dishonourable nature.

About this time, he told me, the colonel wrote him upon a scheme then in negotiation for the establishing a certain sort of Bank in Paris, which he and Robert were to buy shares in, by *favor* of the colonel, and in return, he was to be lent money for his share. It was said a large sum was wanted on this occasion. Mr. Perreau expatiated much upon the good security, and great advantages to be derived from engaging in it ; begging me to give

give what cash I could spare ; I accordingly did ; but found afterwards that the said money (1400 l.) was given to * Mess, Keble and Sadleir in premiums to insure the war, and that this banking pretence was only an ostensible seducing pretext set up to extort from me, money, which they presumed I would not have given for the purpose they applied it to.

I shall finish the colonel's portrait, by observing that Mr. Perreau has been for four years an ANNUITY to him in gifts and commissions. The duchess of ----, madame, the countess of -----, Prince Guimene, or Count Such-a-one was perpetually giving the colonel commissions to get them some things from England, and his dear Perreau was as perpetually favoured with purchasing them, for which, the colonel *was* to re-imburse him, but never *did*.

I think it absolutely necessary to be thus minute relative to the colonel, in order that the world may form the truer judgment of his EVIDENCE, and the part he has taken (in other respects †) in the Perreau's cause.

* See the former case, page 2.

† He, Colonel -----, is the supposed author of the letter signed *Justice*, in the Morning Post of March the 15th ; also of the one signed *No Puffer*, and the card in the name of *Jack Spy* ; and several other scurrilous letters and paragraphs.

Except

Except what has been already related in the first part of my case, I do not remember any thing which occurred of importance to this Narrative until Autumn 1773, while Mr. Perreau was at Paris. Being then resolved* to penetrate as far as possible into his affairs, I opened all letters which came in his absence; one was from colonel ----, advising Mr. Perreau that the 200 l. he was so kind to let him have, he had (agreeable to instructions) got Count Chatelet to draw for upon Mr. R. Perreau, and that the said draught was to be paid thro' the house of Mr. Walpole, banker in the city. In fine, the whole letter treated of thanks for the favor and his high approbation of Mr. Perreau's precautions to keep me unacquainted with it, and the judiciousness of making his brother the ostensible payer of the bill to prevent its coming to our house, strenuously urged him not to degrade himself by commencing stock-broker, but apply the 2000 l. (intended for that purpose) for deposits in the alley, which with the train of political intelligence he was in, and that which he (the colonel) could send him from time to time, undoubtedly would gain him success in his speculations, of course there would be no occasion to think more of business. Mr. Perreau unhappily took this advice.

* See page 13, first Case.

I went to Mr. Robert Perreau, told him the discovery I had made relative to the 200l. and conjured him not to accept the draft, at least, till I wrote to his brother and received his answer on the subject. I did write the very next post, and made him so sensible of the injustice and madness of bestowing such a sum (especially as we werethen ourselves reduced to about three thousand) that he, on receipt of my letter, excused himself from it to the Colonel, who ever after bore me a secret enmity and revenge for being the cause of this disappointment to him; a disappointment which was aggravated by his having borrowed, on the credit of getting the 200l; fifty louis of Mr. Panchaud, banker, in Paris. From this time particularly I firmly believed the Meffrs. Perreau's were in possession of the good political informations they told me they were. Robert said he received his from Lady F. B. who made a point to serve him; and for that purpose asked Lord G----d, and Lord N----h, questions: also, that he had advices from Sir George V----t, who got it from his friend Lord R-----d; and, lastly, from a director of the East-India company.

Daniel said, his was from Mr. O----, of D—S----t, and a gentleman belonging to the treasury, whose name it would be highly improper to mention, as being in a confidential office—Foreign intelligence from the Colonel, and from the house of P----tus and C----nuf

C-nuf at Amsterdam; or the Hague, I really can't recollect which it was.

Near Christmas, 1773, Mr. Adair's name was first mentioned as the *person* Mr. Perreau obtained his informations from, and entirely took its rise from the following accidental circumstance:

Several months previous to it, my uncle Stewart inclosed to me a letter for Mr. James Adair, of Soho-Square, acquainting him, "that I was married to Mr. Perreau, and that he (Mr. Stewart) should esteem it a favor for his family to visit us; as he knew, from the gratitude* and great respect I entertained for Mr. Adair and his family, their acquaintance would afford me the utmost pleasure." This letter came when I was so much indisposed, that I could neither receive nor pay visits; consequently, did not then forward it. But, on recovering so far as to be able to leave my apartment, I sent the letter; and, in consequence, a day or two after, Mr. Adair politely paid me a visit, and of course asked for Mr. Perreau. It happened, that a most intimate friend of Mr. Perreau's (who came purposely to talk of news and stocks) was with us in the drawing room; and it was a general rule with Mr. Perreau not to see any stranger

* Mr. Adair had formerly done me the kindest services by his humane interposition in my behalf, when Mr. Rudd first proceeded to personal and public abuse.

whenever

whenever this friend was with him. The servant, John Moody, knowing this, shewed Mr. Adair into the parlour, and brought up his name to me. I waited upon him, made some apology for Mr. Perreau not appearing, and after chatting a few minutes, and fixing the next day to pay my respects to Mrs. Adair, he took his leave. When Mr. Perreau's visitor was gone, he told me a conversation they had held about stocks, and the fluctuations then in India ; that Mr. -----, his friend, upon hearing Mr. Adair's name, had said ; his son, counsellor Adair, knew every thing relative to India matters, and wished Mr. Perreau could make an interest there for information. This led to mentioning Mr. William Adair and his great knowledge in those matters :* concluding, that if Mr. Perreau could obtain such solid good intelligence as these gentlemen, he presumed, could give him, that he would in that case go any lengths for him in the stocks.

Mr. Perreau said to me, he would avail himself of the observation his friend had made, relative to the Messrs. Adairs ; saying, there was nothing more usual than to give fictitious names to brokers, in order to amuse or gain credit

* I beg the Mr. Adair's pardons for the liberties, truth, and my unhappy fate, compels me to take with their names in this narrative.

with them, and also to conceal the real intelligencers, whose names it were generally very improper to give up in alley transactions, and often impossible without forfeiting their friendship----in short, Mr. Perreau concluded from henceforth to say, that, he received his information from Messrs. Adairs, particularly Mr. William Adair. I never gave myself consideration, or leave to examine into the propriety or impropriety of such a proceeding, being satisfied from Mr. Perreau's representation, it was nothing more than a very customary, innocent finesse; I am in my own mind convinced to this hour, that Mr. Perreau then meant it only as such; and in no sense, or with no view as a fraudulent deceit. What induced him ever to use the name, otherwise is, what I neither know, nor can account for, farther, than what I have deposited upon oath. I beg it may be noticed, that, agreeable to this plan, its probable, when the name of Adair has been mentioned, I did not contradict the opinion of those (who may have talked of it,) that, Mr. Perreau knew Mr. William Adair; but nothing more than merely that.

I recollect in the course of the winter, while Mr. Perreau was lame with a sort of gout, or inflammatory rheumatism, unable to go to his real intelligencers, he was so pressed upon some political points, by the aforesaid friend,

friend, Mr. -----, that to silence his importunities, he once or twice, had himself called out of the room, as if to speak to Mr. Adair; and, I certainly did, by his desire go down stairs; made the servant (John Moody) rap and call his master out, but, never mentioned to him the name of Adair (as he has sworn); I only said, give a double rap and let your master know he is wanted below.

He also deposes that, at this time, I frequently wrote letters and then went out, telling him to deliver them to Mr. Perreau when he came home, in my absence. I was not, for months out of the house, nor indeed scarcely able to quit my room, during that time. Mr. Perreau was himself lame, and confined for months, and so far, from being able to write daily as this evidence describes, I was in a dying state, as to be unable to write to the nearest and dearest friends, who one and all can testify, they did not, (owing to my illness and inability to write) hear from me above once in four or five months.

He likewise swears, I wrote in his sight; gave him the letter, and said, tell your master this came from Mr. Adair. I presume, no person with common sense, or indeed, any sense at all, can give the least credit to so inconsistent, and in every respect irrational an improbability; therefore, cannot suppose it even necessary to comment upon that matter.

I Shall

I Shall only observe, that had I been engaged in any scheme which required confidants exclusive of the *meanness*, (which, I believe, no one who knows me, will suspect me of) I am not so gross an ideot, as to put myself in the power of a parcel of menials. An ignorant footman, whom I made Mr. Perreau turn away, because he was a slovenly bad servant, and continually making disturbances with the servants, by his lyes and tattles of them to his master. ----- When I have said thus much, its scarcely necessary to add, (as it must of course be taken for granted) that, the evidence of E----- P-----, and Hannah Dalbouse is altogether wrong. The former of these, has since the trial acknowledged that Mr. ----- gave her a couple of guineas to fwear what she did.

As to Miss Susanah Perreau, and Colonel -----, I shall treat them with more ceremony than, to tell them in plain terms, they are --- ; but, I refer it to their own consciences, and to the impartial confideration of the world, whe-
ther they are, or are not.

It may not be improper to remark here, that, Sir Thomas Frankland swore at Guild-Hall ; the first bond he discounted for Robert Perreau was on the fourth of May, 1774. I was then, exactly eight days brought to bed of my youngest child, and, submit it to any one, if

if at such a time, and in such a situation, I could contrive to forge a bond, and impose it on the Messrs. Perreaus, as their defences, say I did.

The Colonel came upon his visit to us some time in February 1774. I understood it was to be in readiness to go, if required, to Holland, to transact stock business there. I can't avoid saying, that I am convinced his pernicious counsels, and finister designs, induced and urged Mr. Perreau to commit many indiscretions and extravagancies : for example, the taking the house at Mill Hill, which was done without my privity, or even being consulted about it. I was so exasperated upon the occasion, I could scarcely be prevailed on to go into it : in fact, never would, but that Mr. and Mrs. Horton, with the Miss Perreaus, were in town, and invited by Mr. Perreau to reside (during their stay) with us in the country ; for which reason, common civility, not choice, obliged me to acquiesce. I never could endure the country to live in ; it would have been the very last thing I should have proposed : it was entirely because my physician gave it in opinion, that it was absolutely requisite for my health ; that I assented to pass a few months in it ; and myself proposed a lodging, or small house, for the summer. With regard to Harley-Street house, it was so contrary to what I had any idea of, much

much less approved, that the remonstrances I made against it, excited Mr. Perreau's resentment, so as to occasion our not speaking to each other for several days: nay, he even carried his airs so high as to suffer his brother and sister, the colonel and myself, to come one evening from town to Mill-Hill, and staid himself that night and next day in town, on purpose to insult and make me unhappy, in revenge for my having opposed and represented the absurdity of his purchasing so capital a house: though I did not doubt his ability to pay for it; yet, I knew he had not realized a fortune. He was, in my belief, winning in the stocks what supported his expences, and in a prosperous train of gaining considerably.

The damp situation of Mill-Hill disagreeing with me, we removed to London near or in September. The colonel then returned to France. Mr. Perreau presented him with a hundred pound to answer his immediate exigences, and gave him a new post-chaise, for which he paid Mr. Wright, of Long-Acre, one hundred and forty-five pounds. I leave any one to imagine; was it possible for me to question the case of Mr. Perreau's circumstances when I saw him do things of this sort.

When

When Mr. Perreau was pressed for the payment of Harley-street house, he excused to me his not being then in cash, by saying, he had made some large deposits, and also reserved 3000 l. for a seat in parliament, which he was, and had been for a twelvemonth past in pursuit of; and Mr. Robert Perreau had several conferences with Sir William Desse, banker, upon the purchase of a borough for Daniel; nor did it appear any way singular, that his brother should give him a temporary accommodation to use his own credit. I then understood Robert Perreau had borrowed the 4000 l. upon his own note of hand, from Sir Thomas Frankland: the evening he received it I drank tea in Golden-square, and as Daniel expected to be called upon the following day for the money, I brought the draught home with me that night; but he coming in late, I did not give it him till next morning, when he went himself to Mess. Batsons and Co. received the cash the same forenoon, and before he returned home paid it into Cocks and Biddulphs, bankers, Charing-cross, the parties being gone out of town to whom it was to have been that day paid.

The reader will, I hope, be pleased to notice how differently Mr. Daniel Perreau relates this matter in his narrative; and I trust in God, all the monies will be truely traced, whereby it will be proved I have neither received,

ceived, paid, nor was in any respect concerned, or acted in the business.

About three weeks prior to the discovery made by Messrs. Drummonds; Robert Perreau informed me he had sustained in the alley a loss of near 2000 l. which he was unprovided for; that his wife was miserable on the occasion, his * broker importunate. Persuaded of my regard and feeling for him, he came to request I would spare him my jewels to raise money upon to answer this exigency, promising to restore them in a few weeks.

I cheerfully complied; happy, indeed, to have it in my power to serve him. However, after many efforts to raise the money on them he could not succeed.

After this, and several days previous to the bond being presented to Messrs. Drummonds, Robert Perreau came to me in Harley-street. I was alone; he appeared to have something of consequence to say; yet unwilling to speak, I concluded he was still distressed about the alley loss, and interrogated him concerning it. He replied, that matter was settled; but he had one of much more importance to confide to me, and proceeded to tell me he was drove to the greatest extremity for a S U M, which if he did not obtain by a certain time he was a ruined

Mr. Scota.

ruined man ; expatiated much on the esteem he knew I entertained for him, and the confidence I must necessarily have in the uprightness of his intentions ; he then shewed me a letter signed William Adair ; it was on the subject of stocks ; it appeared to me, and I really thought it an ostensible letter, wrote merely to shew a broker ; and as I knew they (Messrs. Perreaus) used Mr. Adair's name in jobbing, it did not alarm me with an idea of ought bad ; but upon his producing a bond also, and asking me if I thought I could imitate the hand-writing of that letter, and sign the name William Adair to the bond ; I was both surprized and shocked.

He likewise said, the person that was to have done it, was out of the way, giving *that* as the reason, *why*, he applied to me to do it ----- assured me, Mr. Drummond would advance money upon the bond, having Mr. Adair's name to it. That he had talked with Mr. Drummond on the subject, and, told him he had such a "security, but, was under promise not to negociate it ; therefore if he did, must put it into Mr. Drummond's hands in confidential privacy." To which Mr. Drummond should say, he saw the propriety of Mr. Perreau's delicacy, commended him for it, as being a respect due to Mr. Adair's name ; adding, when he (Mr. Drummond) received the bond, he would take it home to his own

G dwelling

dwelling house and lock it up, untill Mr. Perreau came himself to take it away ; and Mr. Adair, nor no person whatever should ever hear of it,

He enforced his request to me, with repeated solemn asservations, no fraud was meant by this transaction, and that, he would take the bond up in May : but, every thing valuable in life, to him depended on his getting cash by such a day, I utterly rejected having any concern with such an affair, assured him, I would do any thing else in my power to serve him. I offered my jewels, and even gave him leave to sell them, if doing so would accommodate him. To this he objected, because, it was not possible he said, to dispose of them in time for his necessity ; conjured me to consider of the matter, and, suffer him to leave the letter and bond with me ; I assented to this, and said, I would talk to his brother on the subject. When he came home, I accordingly did, he, also wished me to comply with Robert's request, represented the perfect safety of my doing so, and the unquestionable honesty of his brother's intentions, spoke in general terms of the immense consequence it was to him to get this business accomplished, and slightly hinted it was even interesting to himself.

I expressed

I expressed myself with great warmth, and energy against it; at the same time, assuring Daniel, I would part with *life* itself to save their credit and happiness, were *that* honourably required; but what they desired, wore so much the face of dishonesty, that, though I was from my soul persuaded it was in no respect intended *so*, yet, I could not, would not assist, nor have any thing to do with it; the unaffected tears and emotion with which I delivered the speech, seemed then to convince Daniel both of the propriety and sincerity of my abhorrence and disapprobation of the affair; so much indeed, that he not only desisted from pressing it, but, with infinite tenderness endeavoured to dissipate my chagrin kindly saying, "my dear Caroline, the superior rectitude of your heart, and the exquisite sensibility of your Nature, leads you to refine and feel too much on this matter--let us drop the subject."

Ever attentive to Mr. Petreat, I saw he did himself a violence by this submission, he was extremely thoughtful and evidently uneasy, but, I believe for the space of two days did not renew the topic.

Robert every day resumed his intreaties for me to sign the bond; I as constantly refused, referring him to his brother for a full explanation of my sentiments, which I declined out of

of delicacy giving him myself, because *they* were such as seemed a reproach to him.

I presume Robert's private conversations with Daniel inflamed the latter's mind, and influenced him contrary to his own better reason, and apparent way of thinking, when we first discussed this point; for he now began to press it much, and with a degree of ill temper at my objecting.

On Monday the 6th of March, while at breakfast in his dressing room, he strenuously urged me to sign the bond then, as the next day was that which, he said, Robert engaged to be with Mr. Drummond: I persisted in refusing, very high words arose, and he swore if I did not do it, he would break my arm, cursed me, and, in his passion, threw a shirt at me which he happened to have in his hand. I was now equally incensed, rung the bell with violence, and declared I would expose him and the affair to the whole house; but, on the footman's coming to the door, he rushed past him; saying, "Its your mistres wants you," and directly went out. We had company to dinner and cards. Mr. Perreau and I did not meet again till our visitors came, which prevented any private conversation.

In consequence of the morning scene I was indisposed the whole day, agitated, and incapable

incapable of paying a proper attention to my company, to excuse which I feigned a headache and pain in my face (I had a slight sore throat). In the evening I conveyed Robert into the back drawing room, under pretence of looking at my throat, but, in fact, to reason with him relative to the bond, and his brother's conduct to me: the latter he inveighed against, and appeared much hurt at, but conjured me, in the most solemn terms, to oblige him, and begged I would talk the thing over once more with Daniel that night, and he would breakfast with us next morning. I replied, nothing should prevail on me to sign it, therefore not to entertain any hopes from that.

When alone, and retired for the night, Mr. Perreau asked for the letter and bond: the abrupt manner he spoke in, and seeing an ink-stand lay on the commode before him, I conjectured he meant to sign it himself, and was going to pray him not; when he demanded to know if I would then do it? observing, "There was no time for delays, and "it positively must be done for the money to "be received next day, otherwise a transac- "tion would transpire which must hang his "brother, and endanger his own life;" and repeatedly declared and assured me that NO fraud was intended. Notwithstanding this, I still refused, and beseeched him not to ask me what

what no consideration should make me consent to.

Added to this, I was exceedingly irritated by the insolent abuse I received in the morning, and therefore made him some very passionate reproaches, which probably provoked, and in an involuntary gust of passion, hurried him to act with violence ; for then quite enraged, he insisted I should sign the bond instantly. " **N O**, I positively wo'nt." He now lost all patience ; said he might as well be hanged for one thing as another, and unless I wrote the name that moment, he swore he would cut my throat, taking a knife from his pocket at the same instant, and holding it at me as if he really meant to execute his threats. Thus forced, and under the actual apprehension of losing my life if I did not comply, I wrote the name, William Adair, to the bond, copying it from the letter Robert left with me for that purpose ; and I remember I drew the pen a second time over part of it, to amend and make it more like the original than I had first wrote it.

When this dreadful business was finished, I threw myself in an agony on the bed, where I lay the whole night in my cloaths. Torn with conflicting passions, there appeared to me **NO** alternative but also to destroy the bond and renounce Mr. Perreau for ever, or to re-

turn

turn it to Robert, and let it take its course ; to embrace the first was tearing asunder every tender, engaging tie of wife and mother, attended with loss of reputation, and every thing desirable in life. The *feeling* reader will conceive *what* anguish the very thought of this must cost ; and surely allow, that to *reject*, or rather to be *unable* to resolve upon *it*, was a most natural consequence, and will, I hope, exempt me from even a *supposition* that I gave *way* to the *other* from any defect of heart or want of principle. Possibly had I possessed *less sentiment*, I should have acted with (what on this fatal affair is termed) more rectitude.

I do not by this ingenuous recital of the *motives* which biassed me, presume to *excuse* my *error* ; I only intreat they may be admitted an *extenuation* of *it*.

Unable, from the extreme wretchedness of my mind, to sleep, or get any sort of repose, I rose earlier than usual next morning. Robert came to breakfast, and before I had time to relate to him the particulars of the past night, Daniel joined us. The bond and the letter lay on the table ; he took them up, looked at them as if to compare the writing, and said to Robert, " I think it will do, I suppose you'll be with Mr. Drummond this forenoon." He answered, yes ; and soon after went away. The bond then had no name
to

to it but William Adair; witnessing, it was never proposed to me, nor even mentioned in my hearing; nor do I know any thing whatever of, or relative to its being witnessed.

I saw Robert Perreau again several times during the day, but heard nothing more of the matter, only that he was to be with Mess. Drummonds next morning, to receive the money for the bond. On Wednesday morning I came to visit Mrs. Perreau, who was lame; and was there when Robert's coach stopped, and the servant told me his master begged I would come directly to Mr. Adair's. It instantly occurred to my mind what had happened. Having the greatest regard imaginable for him, feeling strongly for his wife and children, I resolved the whole way to Pall-Mall how I could possibly serve him, or any how palliate the affair in his favor. I recollect that I had frequently heard Mr. Adair spoke of being one of the most humane, generous, benevolent men existing. I had likewise heard the same of the Messrs. Drummonds; and knew Mr. Henry Drummond knew Robert Perreau many years attending in, and esteemed by Lord Egmont's family; I therefore thought of trying to interest their compassion for him. When I first entered the room where these gentlemen were, I first asked to speak to Robert, to know what had passed, that I might the better judge how to

act;

act ; this was refused me ; but I understood he had only said " I gave him the bond, and referred them to me for some explanation." I then entreated to speak with Mr. Adair alone, and my reason for this request was, to tell him the whole truth, and beseech his compassion ; but he declining any private conversation, and seeing Robert Perreau pressed by the Messrs. Drummonds to explain himself ; seeing also his life and reputation on the very point of being lost ; with the hopes of saving both, or at least to ward off from him immediate destruction, I said he was innocent, that I gave him the bond, and that I forged it ; in short, my distraction of mind, and zeal to save his life and character, his wife and helpless children, from shame and misery, I said whatever I thought could excuse him, without at all considering myself ; nor indeed, if I had been capable of reflection, did I know the danger or impropriety (in a law sense) of what I was saying or doing when Mr. R. Drummond doubted that I could write the hand, and urged me to let them see if I could, and laid the bond before me to copy from, they both gave me their word and honour they never would take any advantages from it. And I beg leave to take this opportunity to acknowledge and return my most respectful, grateful thanks for the great honour and generosity with which they kept their promise, and have treated me with throughout the affair. To hearts like

theirs, the innate satisfaction arising from having done a humane action, is at once *its* own reward and praise.

Soon after my coming to Mr. Adair's, I desired Daniel Perreau to be sent for, because I expected, if things came to extremities he would declare the truth. The event has proved how infinitely I was mistaken when I believed him capable of any veracity or justice towards me.

When we left Pall-Mall, we drove to Harley-street, I set Messrs. Perreaus down there, and without getting out of the carriage, went directly to Mr. James Adair of Soho-square : I related to him what had happened, and in confidence, and with a view to obtain his advice, I candidly told him the circumstances under which I had been forced to sign the bond, * but made no accusation against Robert Perreau. He was visibly shocked, as every honest, good man must be at hearing such a transaction ; and hinted, he hoped there was nothing more of the kind. He can attest that I protested without hesitation, and in the most solemn terms, that I knew of nothing else, never heard of, nor could suspect there was, or ever had been.

Most certainly had I known of, or been concerned in any other affair of the sort, I should

* See page 14.

should have communicated it to him with the same unreserved candor, I did that of Messrs. Drummonds: nor could I possibly have a motive for doing otherwise, for I could not then so much as have an idea, but that whatever I imparted to him was buried in oblivion.

Anxiously solicitous to engage his compassion for Robert Perreau, I implored him to speak to Mr. William Adair to use his good offices with Messrs. Drummonds, not only, not to prosecute, but to be silent on the affair, as its transpiring in the least degree, would ruin Robert Perreau in his profession.

I beg to be understood, when, I said to Mr. Adair in conversation, and in my letter, that Robert was innocent, I meant, that he *was so*, of all or any intention to defraud, though perhaps, I did not expressly make the distinction between *that* and his being *entirely innocent* of the forgery. But my letter of Wednesday night to Mr. James Adair, plainly signifies, that I myself *was not* the culpable person, though it contained no direct accusations of who were.

I told the Perreaus literally, my conversation with Mr. Adair, Daniel seemed vastly shocked and angry at being what he called exposed; however, I appeased him by assurance that Mr. Adair was two humanely considerate ever

ever to mention to any person what I had in full confidence of his secrecy and great goodness imparted to him : besides, I really could not be so insincere as to deceive Mr. Adair, when I presumed to request his advice, and mediation with Mr. William Adair; they appeared satisfied with this, and proposed for Robert to go himself, and solicit Mr. I. A----'s intercession and benevolent offices: however, instead of doing it he went and told him, "that, I insisted to him, that the bond was a true one, and given me by Mr. William Adair ;" upon which Mr. J. Adair answered, " I had, in the morning told him that the bond was a forged one," and, this falsehood of Robert's caused Mr. Adair to write to me on Thursday morning, " that after what I told him the preceding day, and Robert saying what was so contrary, afterwards he desired to decline all further intercourse or correspondence." I was most exceedingly hurt at this letter, upbraided Robert Perreau severely for his false unjust behaviour on this subject, and insisted on his telling the truth, and thereby, justify me to Mr. Adair. I then went to Mr. William Adair ; expressed to him how unhappy I was at what Robert had been so base to say, assured him of its intire falsity, and, took the liberty to intreat him, to tell Mr. James Adair so, and how much concern his letter gave me. I was in tears and great agitation while I was speaking to Mr. Adair, who, received and heard

heard me with that complacent goodness which he is so justly universally esteemed and respected for ----- he pitied my situation, said, "he thought Robert had treated me very ill indeed in what he told Mr. James Adair, that, from that it was plain to him he wanted to exonerate himself, and throw the odium upon me ; therefore, I should do well to take care of myself by being aware of his sinister conduct," (or words to this effect.)

He adding, he had not seen Mr. Drummond since we were altogether and knew nothing of his intentions relative to the affair of the bond.

During this time Daniel waited for me in our coach, as I insisted on coming to Mr. Adair upon what his brother falsely accused me of, seeing it was impracticable to prevent my doing so, or else writing ; he came with me in the carriage, which stopped at the end of King Street, St. James's Square. His reasons for keeping me thus constantly in view, will be seen in the remainder of this narrative. Robert and he, had several private conferences in the course of this forenoon, and after dinner, *they first* disclosed to me, that, there were other false bonds, and told me the particulars of Sir Thomas Frankland's *two*, and doctor Brooke's *one*. This I solemnly protest, was the *very first time* I ever heard of any bond or

or bonds, except *the one* presented to Messrs. Drummonds, nor, did I even know that Robert owed Sir Thomas any money, but the 4000l. which paid for our house in Harley Street; and I, until this moment, always understood Robert had borrowed it upon his own note of hand,

I shall not pretend to describe the increase of affliction and horror this new discovery gave me. I now saw Daniel's life and character at stake; and in the *sense* of *that consideration* (comparatively speaking) lost all others. I wrung my hands in agony, and fell on my knees to beseech the Almighty to take me from such a scene of piercing wretchedness as I saw this dreadful affair was pregnant with. The Messrs. Perreaus strove to bring me to some degree of composure; said, "They communicated this last business to me, because it was greatly in my power to help to extricate and relieve them." Its natural to believe, that I assured them (as I sincerely did) I would part with my life to effect their safety and deliverance from the death and ruin which inevitably availed the detection and exposure of this last discovered transactions. Robert then, with persuasive plausibility, proposed my going with them to Mr. Henry Dagge, to offer my jewels, and what other effects they could, for him to raise money upon, to pay off Sir Thomas Frankland and

Dr.

Dr. Brooke; but Robert observed, the *truth*
 must not be told to Mr. Dagge; otherwise he
 would, from *pride*, more than *principle*, re-
 fuse to take any concern in the *business*, though
 out of respect to Robert he might not divulge
 it. Therefore we were to say to him, "The
 " bonds were really Mr. Adair's; that we
 " supposed he had, from some caprice, or we
 " knew not what, choose to deny his signa-
 " ture;" intimating, however, at the same
 time, " that we imagined he had *privately*
 " satisfied Messrs. Drummond, but had been
 " affronted by Robert's presuming to nego-
 " tiate his bond in *that public manner* with a
 " banker, and out of pique, thus resented it." I
 was also instructed by them *what to say myself*,
 and countenance them in saying, to gain Mr.
 Dagge's belief. I then thought their story *the*
invention of that day. But as its nearly, mostly
 indeed, the Fairy Tale they have set forth in
 their defences, I am now convinced it was a
 long concerted story, and which had been *in part*
 occasionally used in their *prior* transactions
 and schemes. Even in the confusion of mind
 I then was, I perceived, and objected to the
 great improbability and romance of it; ob-
 serving, I thought it impossible for Mr. Dagge
 to credit it. To this Robert Perreau an-
 swered, " He was both a very credulous, and
 " a very weak man; but even should he see
 " through the fallacy of the story, as they
 " represented it under the MASK of
 TRUTH

of honour? and this idea recalled to my remembrance, that I had once heard Mr. George Williamson, late of Frith-Street, Soho, (but now gone to the East Indies) say, “ Mr. ‘‘ D----’s heart lay in the wrong place;” with many other satirical remarks on his *principles* and deportment in life. This, I thought, corroborating with Daniel’s query to Robert, alarmed me on their account, and in consequence, advised them to call in Southampton-Street first, to see if Mr. James Dagge was in town; and if so, to tell the ingenuous truth to him; as I was persuaded *he* was so humane, so worthy a man, that they might safely intrust their lives and reputation to him; and that the rectitude of his own upright heart would naturally induce him to allow them some merit when he found them candid, and strictly honestly inclined to pay every person their just demand. Agreeable to my advice, we went first to his house (however, they did not say *whether* or *not* they would be frank with him) unfortunately he was not come to town. I say *unfortunately*, because, *I am* convinced, had *he been the solicitor applied to*, the unhappy Perreaus and myself would have escaped all those misfortunes which we have since met with.

In Ruffel-street, we were told Mr. Henry Dagge was at the play-house; thither, we drove, but missing him there, returned again to his house. I had never seen him before;

Daniel Perreau introduced me; "Sir, this is my wife, Mrs. Perreau." After the usual civilities, Daniel begun the story; Robert occasionally spoke, and they sometimes referred to me, which I answered *as they had instructed me.* In the course of the detail, having leisure to reflect on the excessive improbable absurdity of it, I sought to see in Mr. Dagger's *looks* if it met with any credit with him; but from *them* I could make no *certain* judgment. The only particulars which struck me, (and I noticed to Mr. Perreau when he returned home) was that he talked extremely vague, unsatisfactory, and (he must excuse me) I thought, *not* like a man of sense, nor a friend, in whatever *light* he might have taken their story. The only points he spoke to that night were, "He would see Mr. Drummond and Mr. James Adair, both of whom, he insinuated he could do almost any thing with, and know any thing from, and from them should learn if any prosecution was intended." I reminded Daniel how improper it was to allow Mr. Dagge to speak with Mr. Adair and Mr. Drummond, which must discover to him the falsity of what we had told him. Daniel answered, "That was true, he would prevent his going, and would for that purpose write to him by eight o'clock next morning."

The following morning (Friday the 10th) we went about ten o'clock to Golden-Square, and found Mrs. Perreau in her bedchamber,

fur-

surrounded with papers and account books, which she was busied in inspecting and sorting into different parcels. She told us her husband "was gone ever since seven o'clock to Mr. Henry Dagge to consult him at leisure; said he was quite uneasy, at not having money ready for Sir Thomas Frankland, who, probably would call that very day for it, and that, he likewise had gone with a resolution to put himself entirely into Mr. Dagge's hands, to be directed and governed by his advice." Daniel looked both alarmed and offended at hearing this, and at his brother's going without him; and, I took notice myself there was a *selfish something*, an equivocal duplicity in Mrs. Perreau's whole discourse and manner that morning, as much as to say, "my husband must, and, is determined to take care of himself at all events, and without considering ought else, or regarding any thing but his own safety." Going to Dagges, I asked Daniel, what all them papers and account books could be, and what his opinion was of what we had *just seen* and heard: he replyed, "he supposed she was disposing her papers and accounts in case of any accident to Robert, or in case he should be obliged to abscond. That, as to her conversation she was a weak woman, and did not herself know the *meaning* of what she talked about." Not satisfied with his constructions, and ever watchful for his happiness and credit, I begged him not to be lulled into a false security.

security by his brother; reminded him of many instances wherein he had shewn more regard to his brother's interest than his own, and by so doing materially prejudiced himself, and that, I highly disapproved of the clandestine, disingenuous action of Robert's going to Mr. Dagge's without us, especially as it was mutually agreed the preceeding night he should wait until we came to accompany him; that, unless we knew what each other did, and every word which passed with Mr. Dagge, it would be impossible for me to continue to *say* what *they desired*. I likewise entreated him to go with me, *then* to consult some disinterested lawyer, both for his own sake and the ease of my mind; this, he earnestly refused doing, saying, "it would only expose us, and that, Mr. Dagge could advise as well as any other solicitor; and, though he blamed his brother's going without us, yet he could not suppose there was any finister view in it."

When we came to Russel Street, Daniel desired I would wait in the coach, pretending Mr. Dagge might have people with him upon businefs; I waited more than half a hour, at last, Daniel brought me into the parlour, they, were all visibly confused, Daniel looked *hurt*, and as if something had passed upon which he was *irresolute*. Mr. Dagge said, he thought Robert Perreau in danger from Mr. Drummond, he would, by no means allow him to venture

venture home, that, if the money could not be obtained for Sir Thomas for that day, he, must go off till the affair could be accommodated. A number of other things to the same tendency was talked over, I clearly now saw, that Mr. Dagge's whole attention and care was fixed upon Robert. This, was evident from *all he proposed*, and the tenor of his discourse ; and that, there was a *particular distinct* understanding between them. He desired us to go to James Dagge's, and, he would try to raise money on my jewels in the city, and, from thence come to us. Mr. Perreau went directly to Christie, and brought the jewels to him ; it is, necessary here again to remark, that, all all this time Mr. Perreau never permitted me to leave his sight, and, the reason he *now* as-signed for it was, as, I took so much amiss what Robert said to Mr. James Adair, they were afraid, I would if left alone, go to him personally, justify myself from the falsehood told of me, and expose them farther, *mean-ing Sir Thomas Frankland and Doctor Brooke's affairs, which, when I had on the Wednesday seen Mr. Adair, I then, knew nothing whatever of.*

I consented for Mr. Dagge to have the raising of the money ; but, disliking his manner and conversation, thinking too, that, I saw some mysterious collusion betwxt him and Robert, and, fearing *from thence, they* were not acting fairly and ingenuously towards Daniel ; also

also beginning to consider seriously of the stories *they were* instructing and prevailing with me to tell from time to time to Mr. Dagge, I grew uneasy upon *that* subject, and, beseeched Daniel then (Friday forenoon) to go with me to some solicitor or council of reputation and abilities, who, would give us a judicious impartial opinion ; "no," he was deaf to this, I then prayed, conjured him for my own peace of mind, to let *me* consult a lawyer how far I was myself *safe* in saying to Mr. Dagge, as *they* tutored me, and as I did at their request. This put him quite in a passion, "I was a fool to think of such nonsense, sure, he and his brother would *not* ask me to say, what *was* or *could* be hurtful to me, was *not* my safety, and fame as dear, as sacred to him as his own," and so forth; however, I continued to intreat him with tears to let me have *the* desired advice; adding, I was willing to do any thing *they required*, only *allow me to be satisfied*, I was *safe in doing so*; and, that he likewise was doing right in following Mr. Dagge's councils which I freely declared *I disliked*, and totally disapproved of. No, he would not on *any consideration*, suffer me to *see* nor speak to any lawyer except Mr. Dagge.

When Daniel and I came to Mr. James Dagge's, Mrs. Perreau was there, and, in earnest conference with Mr. Henry Dagge and Robert Perreau; on my approaching the talk ceased,

ceased, and, they looked significantly at each other.

Afterwards several conversations passed betwixt us and before Mr. EVENOT. (Mr. James Dagge's brother in law) relative to raising money that day; which however, was not accomplished, and repetitions of the same tale to HIM, which, we had told to Dagge and agreed to persist in. I observed to Daniel, that Mr. Dagge's discourse was the strangest jumble of inconsistencies I ever heard, what he *said* or *advised* one minute the next he contradicted, he was perpetually throwing out Robert's great danger. The necessity of securing himself either by flight to France, or conceal some where in London, or *its* environs, yet, when I, or the PERREAUS pressed the execution of such a step; then, no, "we should stay to hear what Mr. Drummond said, and intended. See what could be done with respect to cash, for Sir Thomas, and a thousand such like equivocal, contradictory *advice* and *protractions*, all which gave me the utmost disquietude, and the most ardent desire to have the opinion of some other lawyer; for, though I could not divine what Mr. Dagge was *about* or what he *meant*, yet, *common sense* told me there was neither *reason* nor *safety* (for the Perreaus) in what he did *say*, and, *advise* in my hearing, and from thence I naturally inferred, there must be *something* *sinister* and *unfair*, though, I could not penetrate what

what that something was, its source, nor aim; my surmises indeed were enumerous and various, but, on weighing them all, and reconsidering every thing I saw and heard, I concluded he and Robert Perreau was in league to amuse and deceive Daniel and me; so far, as tended to Robert's pecuniary advantage in getting the money for Sir Thomas on *our* effects, and, this I thought, might be Dagge's reason for urging us *not to* absent ourselves till we saw the issue of that; or that, he (Mr. Dagge's) had been with Sir *Thomas*, (which he had once proposed, and, that he was acting privately for *his* interest, and, in consequence detaining us to effect that, and lastly, recurred to my prior idea that Mr. Dagge and Robert, had a particular distinct understanding with each other, which, they were working upon in some way to Daniel's disadvantage; but, the conspiracy against me, or a thought of any thing prejudicial to me, never *entered* my imagination, nor was it possible it should. Conscious as I was (and must be) that were the whole truth told to Mr. Dagge, I could *not* appear, or be judged culpable; on the contrary he must see and pity me for the inhumanity I had been treated with when forced to sign the bond presented to Meffrs. Drummond; and, *supposing* Dagge a GOOD or JUST man, acquainted with the real facts, I must of course be free even from censure; how then could I possibly apprehend a concerted plot

plot to sacrifice my LIFE and REPUTA-
TION to make me the victim to save and se-
cure both. To the Perreaus, indeed, I never
entertained an opinion of human nature's being
so corrupt as to be capable of such wickedness.
Much — *much* less should I have believed, that
the man who was in every *moral* sense, and,
except the *mere* ceremony, in every *divine*
sense, my husband, would have combined and
aided in so unnatural, so horrid a scheme!
The *father* of my three inoffending, lovely in-
fants, whose helpless innocence alone ought
to have engaged him, for their sakes, to have
held their mother's life, character, and pro-
perty sacred; that in *her* fond maternal care
and tender affection *they* might have a *pro-
tector, guide, and support*, in life; blessings
which his cruel injustice (and the united
wrongs of OTHERS) has torn from them;
and, with their unfortunate wretched mother,
they are deprived of every prospect of hap-
piness.

Plunged into indigence, disgrace, and ir-
reparable misfortune, my childrens' destitute
state is by far my greatest misery; what rends
my soul with agonizing sorrow, and what
alone gives me *one* wish for life. I am now
their *only* parent, their sole hope and depend-
ance. At *worst*, I may always afford them
some little assistance, some maternal comfort;
but for *this* tie, but for *their* sakes, circum-
K stanced

stanced as I am, with the *loss* of every thing *else* desirable and dear in this world. *Death* would be a *blessing*. Sorrows like mine can only cease with existence: nor, after the unjust injuries I have experienced, is there *any place* but the *grave* in which I can hope to rest secure from the persecutions of malice and sinister wickedness.

Friday the 10th, in the evening, Mr. Dagge and Robert Perreau went out together, and were absent a considerable time.* On their return, Mr. Dagge, with an *appearance* of concern and *great surprise*, said, he had seen the bond; that *he* was *convinced*, from the writing of the signature, it was a forged one. Upon hearing him say this, I concluded, he had been with Mr. Drummond; and, taking a piece of paper from his pocket, said to me, "Look at this; I have copied the forgery. Do you think you could write any thing like it? Do try to imitate it." On his repeating this, I answered, "If you have any curiosity to see my hand writing, its very easy for me to gratify you." Then writing Mrs. Perreau upon a scrap of paper, "There, sir, is my hand writing; you see its a very

* I have since been informed, from undoubted authority, that this was the time they first went and laid the information against me at Sir John Fielding's, before William Addington, Esq. then the sitting magistrate, and pressed much to have me taken up that night.

" plain

" plain one ;" adding, with a look of contempt, I hoped he was now satisfied. Upon which he said, " *I don't think, madam, you forged the bond ; but a forgery it certainly is.*" During this conversation, and for some minutes after, the Messrs. Perreaus walked about in apparent confusion, and every now and then sought to catch my eyes, and tell me with theirs, to be *silent, not to mind Dagge* ; and Robert made some warm expressions by way of rebuke for an insinuation of the kind being thrown out against me. This appearance of candour from him alone deterred me from justifying myself, by disclosing the whole truth that night to Mr. Dagge, whose *manner* as well as *speech* wore an air of insolence and suspicion.

It was growing late, and we were under the necessity to consult, before we separated for the night, what determination to come to; for Mr. Dagge allowed then, that no time was to be lost ; that the Perreaus, must in all probability, go off for a time : (it was from the first proposed for me to accompany them because our families should see nothing mysterious, and suppose us gone to the country a few weeks for the benefit of my health) therefore Mr. Dagge planned for us all to sleep at a hotel that night, where he would see us at eleven the next day, and by that hour either fix *matters so, that nothing dangerous should*

transpire, or ascertain a certainty that the Perreaus ought then to go directly out of the kingdom.

I would not consent to go sleep any where but in my own house, as the servants would think our absence most extraordinary, and I was besides unprovided with a change of cloaths for the journey; but I had motives more consequential than those I mentioned; I wanted to be alone with Daniel to deliver my sentiments freely upon that night's scene in particular; to ask him what it did or could mean: in short, to reason with, to dispassionately consult upon the whole business, and above all to get him to go with me to a counsel of eminence for an opinion,

That night Mr. Evenot saw Mrs. Perreau to Golden-square, who sent back a bundle of linen with him for her husband to travel with. He stayed at Mr. James Dagge's, and after fixing to meet next morning at nine o'clock at an inn by Westminster bridge, we wished each other a good night, and Daniel and I went to our own house. When we were in our chamber, instead of preparing myself for bed, I sat down to talk over the occurences of the day, Mr. Dagge's address to me, his declaring he was certain the bond was forged, were to me inexplicable mysteries. I was quite persuaded from the Messrs. Drummond's known honor and good-

goodness they had not betrayed me to him, and I could not yet bring myself to conjecture that Robert Perreau had imposed upon Mr. D. any falsity of me to exonerate or excuse himself. What he had said of *that sort* to Mr. Adair, was to be sure, extremely base. But the affair was then in its infancy, and in his sanguineness to induce Mr. Adair to speak in his favor that day to Mr. Drummond, might venture a desperate falsehood without a premeditated design to injure me; also presuming upon my great and demonstrated regard for him, too, in some degree, forgive the offence if it had essentially served him. Thus I argued in my own mind relative to that circumstance; but *now* the case was almost in every sense different; accusing me clandestinely to Mr. Dagge, was the EXCESS of villainy, *injustice itself*, aggravated by INGRATITUDE, and the most consummate hypocrisy and treachery, I could not give way to this *surmise*; though I could not help seeing appearances which strongly spoke something like it. Next I considered Daniel; to *suppose* him privy to any bad design against me on this matter, was, as I have before said, totally impossible *for me to do*; and to think his brother deceiving us both, was, in my opinion, carrying *suspicion* beyond the bounds of nature; I therefore rejected the thought the instant it glanced on my imagination.

What

What I argued with Daniel, correspondent with these ideas and way of thinking, he pretended to be as little able as myself to interpret Mr. Dagge's behaviour, vindicated his brother from having any sinister designs, and enforced, as a proof of his equity and respect to me, the warm rebuke he gave when the unfavourable insinuations was thrown out by Mr. Dagge, and an exclamation Mrs. Perreau made while these were passing; for which her husband certainly did reprimand her severely; and indeed, that exclamation surprised and puzzled *me then* as much as any thing else. I now see *it*, and all the rest, a joint-concerted affair; for she knew that Mr. Dagge and Robert were then come from Sir John Fielding's, from giving information against me. However, I could only judge from *visible* matters; and *they* were still specious enough to blind me to their real proceedings. I again urged my desire to go to a lawyer, being now more than ever dissatisfied and suspicious of Mr. Dagge's duplicity. His desiring us to stay at an inn till we saw or heard from him next day, struck me; as either the act of **IGNORANCE** or **TREACHERY**; and this last idea made me think it possible that he was deceiving us all; otherwise, when he declared he scarcely thought the Perreaus safe from one moment to another, why require their stay at an inn to receive news, which, if favourable, could be dispatched after them;

if unfavourable, might loose their lives by staying here to hear it. This I repeated and and argued to Daniel; conjured him, for heaven's sake! to risk nothing; and on my knees prayed, beseeched him to lay the case before counsel next morning, previous to going to the inn, by which he would know whether what Dagge advised relative to staying was at all proper. No, not all I said could move him to do so. "It was folly in "me to think of it; especially when the "busines was to come to a conclusion, one "way or other, the next forenoon. Dagge "too must not be affronted; he would in "that case tell his conjectures to the world." In fine, he positively would not go, nor suffer me to go, to any lawyer; and, to evade any farther importunities, resolved not to exchange a word more with me that night, pretending, that all I said was nonsenical, suspicious, and imprudent rashness. He adhered to his word, and did not speak the remainder of the night. I changed my dress, put on that I proposed to travel in, and in that threw myself on my bed for the night. With a mind filled with every imaginable affliction, at seven next morning called my woman up, told her I was going for a week to the country, and ordered her to pack up a few changes of linen, which she accordingly did; but I took nothing else with me, as our clothes,

clothes, if wanted, or we made a stay in France, were to be sent after us.

I exerted my utmost fortitude to appear composed before the servants, while my heart was a prey to the keenest pangs. I dreaded to hear the voices of my children should they wake, and should they leave their nursery, and be brought to me as was customary every morning at breakfast; their smiling innocence would have disarmed me of all resolution, and I could then sooner faced Death itself, had that been the alternative, than torn myself from them: to evade this, I hurried Mr. Perreau, who, to do him justice, seemed as distressfully affected as myself, equally anxious to avoid hearing or seeing our infants, for whom hitherto he had shewn the tenderest affection and anxiety. I should be wanting in candor not to say this for him, and when I reflect at this hour the fatheful attention he used to pay them, the fond delight with which he caressed, spoke of, and presented them to our acquaintance and friends; his having disgraced them by exposing their illegitimacy and robbing them of a subsistence, by assigning away his whole property and mine, confounds reason, and makes me almost think *it is a dream, not a reality.*

Sure I am that his conduct upon the FATAL business is at once the most extraordinary and

and *indefinable* that ever was practised by man. We had no money but the 50l. he had borrowed upon my match a day or two before, and five guineas, with some silver I had in my purse ; the gold I gave the housekeeper for domestic expences in our absence. My jewels Daniel had in his pocket, for I insisted on having them home from Mr. Dagge, upon his behaving so the preceding night, and I likewise now declared I would not agree to have them dispos'd of, or used for any purpose, that I was not *first convinced* would effectually extricate him from all difficulty ; and this he most solemnly promised to abide by.

We got to the inn by nine o'clock, where I expected to have found Robert Perreau and Mr. Evenot in waiting. No, ten o'clock, eleven o'clock came, no Robert Perreau, nor any message, letter, or notice from him, nor Mr. Dagge. My patience was now quite exhausted, I ran over in my mind all the previous incidents and appearances, I viewed them with an increase of distrust. I told Daniel so ; who scarcely treated me with common decency in his replies ; invented a number of excuses for the delay, and still denied my going to a counsel, though I now demanded with more earnestness, if possible, than ever.

About twelve o'clock, I grew almost frantic with the disregard Daniel paid to my re-

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presentations and requests, and protested that if he did not go with me that moment to a lawyer, nothing but his detaining me by actual violence should prevent me going myself, and that if he opposed it, I would alarm the house, and inform them why he made me a prisoner. This threat changed his language and manners ; he appeared to listen, to feel the force of what I urged, which I did with tears of anguish ; and writing something which he directed to Mr. Evenot, said, if I would refrain from going to a lawyer till we went to Mr. James Dagge's, and he sent in that letter to enquire the reasons why the parties were not at the inn agreeable to appointment, if I was not then satisfied, he would not afterwards oppose my consulting a counsel, or doing whatever I pleased. Unhappily for me I assented to this, went with him to the end of Southampton-street, where he desired I would wait. He stepped into Mr. James Dagge's, and informed himself what had occasioned their delay.

I sat in the coach above an hour ; at length, both the Perreaus came and Mr. Evenot. They seated themselves, looked at each other, I asked where we were now to go, and what was to be done. Daniel shrugged up his shoulders, and muttered, " He did not know." Robert evaded my question by enquiring how the children did ? I burst into tears, and begged him not to mention them ; I was unable

to support the anguish the recollection of them gave me. Then, as if he had remembered at that instant, said, " Brother, we forgot to finish the assignment* of the house, you must step back with me to execute that ; Mr. Dagge will be much vexed if it is not done before we set off." Daniel replied, it was well recollect^{ed}, and they left the coach as if to transact that busines^s. Mr. Evenot remained with me by their desire, under pretence of company. I noticed that Mr. Evenot looked extremely shocked and unhappy ; I asked him if any thing had occurred that forenoon worse than I knew ; and what had prevented our appointment taking place ? He said, " He did not know, Mr Dagge had been engaged all the morning, and he supposed that occasioned the delay ; however, he knew no particulars. That the affair in general had given him deep concern, and wished Mr. James Dagge had been in town." I most sincerely wished the same. However, suspecting from his expressing this wish, that what Henry Dagge had said of its being a forgery, made some impression on him. I talked over to him the story concerted by the Perreaus, with a view to dissipate any surmise he might entertain to the Perreaus disadvantage.

* The assignment of the house was to reimburse Sir Thomas Frankland for the 4000 l. borrowed from him to pay for it.

After a considerable time, Daniel came, I asked where his brother was? He answered, he was *taken up*, at Mr. Drummonds suit, and, that he intended to *take* me up. “Take me up Mr. Perreau! your brother take me up, surely your mad?” For what, in the name of heaven could he take me up, were, he even wicked enough to think of such a scheme.” It was certainly so. Daniel said, that his Brother was obliged to do it. I asked him how he could prevail upon himself to tell me such a story? did he come there to bring me to the shame of appearing like a culprit before a magistrate; and was he so wicked *not* to go from thence that moment with me, to give me time to defend and secure myself properly against such unheard of villainy. Asked for money, and my jewels. He said, “Dagge had taken them, and only left him five guineas. That, he could not think of going to leave his brother to a prosecution.” Enraged at this flagrant baseness, I protested I would no longer shew them any favour; that, I would vindicate myself, and tell the truth, however fatal the consequences might be to them: that, my eyes were now open to their infamy, and, I should justify myself, since, they had dared to attempt to treat me with such wicked injustice. Daniel said to Mr. Evenot, “here is a conversation, I never thought her a bad women till now.”

This

This speech was so full of art, so shocking, that it struck me dumb with amazement and horror, I could not easily persuade myself that I heard right, or, that it could possibly be Daniel Perreau, that uttered it ; and, as I plainly saw, it was calculated to give Mr. Evenot a bad opinion of my conduct, I instantly surmised the plot was full of finisiter mischief, and had been laid before that day. While I was revealing this, Mr. Bond, Sir John Feelding's clerk with Robert Perreau came into the coach. I do not recollect I opened my lips till we came into the office in Bow-Street.

The examination did not begin for some time, in the interim I reproached Daniel Perreau severely, he, avoided me as much as possible. Robert once or twice coming near me, I asked him what all this meant, and, if he imagined I should NOT justify myself. He, replied to this, " That, it was Dagge's doings, he could not help it, and, if I would only be so good as to say to the magistrate, " that I gave him the bond," we should both be acquitted without any more questions being asked us."

I said, I should say nothing without first having a lawyer's opinion, and, often applied to Daniel to send for one; he pretended he did, but *none* came. However, I considered, that notwithstanding their unjust terrible behaviour

to me, if my silence could extricate Robert, (Daniel was then *unaccused*) without injuring myself, I should certainly do it out of *mere* humanity to him and his family; that, it was a tender point, and, that I should at least, feel a solid satisfaction, by rendering *good* for *evil*. I cherished this mild sentiment, and, when I was asked by the magistrate, if, I gave that Bond (the one presented to Mess. Drummonds) to Mr. Robert Perreau; I answered, Yes.

I was then asked *where* I had the said bond from. I asked; was I obliged to declare that now? Upon receiving an answer. No; I was not, I said then, I begged to be excused at present from saying *how I came* to have the bond. Mr. Robert Perreau on his examination, said, I was not his brother's wife, and, that my name was Rudd; that he offered the bond to Mess. Drummonds, believing it a true one. The declaration which exposed my not being married to Daniel Perreau, offended me, and, wounded my mind more than aught else; I could forgive any thing on earth sooner than this shameful injury, and I believe every one present, saw it a piece of wicked cruelty. We were to be examined at six o'clock again, we went together into a room to dinner. There, Robert exerted all his rhetoric to sooth me into a belief, that Mr. Dagge had betrayed *even him*, had discovered first, that I was Mrs. Rudd, *not* Mrs. Perreau, and in fine, that, what he himself

himself did, and said, he was compelled to ; that no harm could come to me, and that he would do every thing in his power, after this to make me some restitution for the odium he was compelled at that juncture to cast on me.

I desired him to spare himself the trouble of endeavouring to amuse and deceive me farther : that though I did not *understand law*, I knew *common sense*, and *that* told me I ought to take care of myself, by guarding against villainous injustice, such as he and Daniel had given me a considerable specimen of. This was chiefly what passed. On our second appearance before the magistrate, I was not asked any thing whatever ; but he saw it proper to detain us until Sir John Fielding gave his answer to a report sent him on the business ; and, in consequence of Sir John's answer, Robert Perreau and I were sent that night to Tothill-field's prison. At eleven o'clock, while we were before the magistrate the second time, counsellor Baily came accidentally in ; and as I was going out of the office, accosted me, telling me his name, and those families where he had several years ago met me on visits. I then recollect ed him, and, happy in having a person of his profession to speak to, and consult, I immediately retained him, and laid the whole truth and transaction open to him as far as I myself knew,

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The Perreaus looked visibly shocked and vexed upon finding I had at last got counsel. I desired to go to a separate room from Robert. Daniel and I held some conversation previous to my going to prison : it consisted of ambiguous answers from him to whatever I said ; and finding that, I desisted from pursuing the subject. I urged him to take care of himself, being now free to avail himself and abscond. He said, he had no money but two guineas ; upon which I gave him my diamond slippers, and my diamond hoop ring to supply him with money for his immediate wants. He gave me the two guineas, as I had parted with the last half-crown I was mistress of to pay coach hire. He seemed then rather inclined to absent himself : he talked somewhat of my joining him, if discharged, which he could not conceive but I must be in the next examination. To this I said, his conduct was such, and *wore* that face to me which made it impossible for me ever to attach myself in future to him. I should not enter into repetitions, or even ask him to explain the conspiracy. I did not expect veracity from him. I saw enough to convince me, that it was a concerted scheme of his, Robert's, and Mr. Dagge's.

However, I not only wished him safe, but was anxiously solicitous he should make himself so, and assured him that I would say nothing

thing against Robert unless justice to myself compelled me.

The next forenoon * we were brought before Sir John. Robert was first examined ; and when I was called in, Sir John asked me who gave me the bond ? I then said, I first received it from Mr. Robert Perreau, and returned it as his property. On making this reply, I was that day asked nothing more. When we came to the outer room, Robert said, " This is a strange change." I desired to have no conversation with him ; that *I told the truth*, and should continue so to do. Daniel followed me into a private room in the house we went into, from the public office. I asked him, why he staid, and admonished him again to abscond. " No, he could not, let " what would be the consequence to himself ; " he must not leave his brother ; for if he did, " he (Robert Perreau) was a lost man." I by no means comprehended the true meaning of this speech then ; but it now appears, that it meant, if he did not stay to give evidence against me, his brother had no chance to escape ; for their plan was, that Robert to be the INFORMER, and Daniel the EVIDENCE to corroborate his INFORMATION ; and as this could not be done, as a

* Sunday the 12th of March.

wife; I was for that reason, and with that view, disavowed.

In prison, I particularly desired that Robert Perreau might have no access to me; nor would I go with him in the same coach to, and from thence to Bow-street. In the evening, (Sunday the 12th) he passed my window several times, as if to let me see how anxious he was to speak to me. My counsel was with me, and he said, Robert seemed so uneasy, possibly he might have something essential to say, he would go out and talk to him; accordingly did; but nothing passed, except indiscriminate accusations of Mr. Dagge; protestations how innocent he was of all intention to injure me, but that the whole had been done by Mr. Dagge, without his privacy: and finding himself in that dangerous predicament, he persisted in saying I gave him the bond; *presuming I would still say the same*, and that the whole affair would drop there: that my declaration* on that forenoon had quite turned the face of things, and if I continued to say so, nothing could save him from destruction; but he yet hoped I would in pity spare him. Mr. Bailey answered, he knew I would not say any thing to prejudice him farther than what common justice to myself required. They came

* That I had received the bond from him, and returned it to him as his property.

together into my room. Robert said, he hoped I would not explain matters so as to hurt him : that he wished Mr. Bailey to be his counsel too. I replied, he could not act for both ; however, Mr. Bailey was certainly at liberty to chuse his client ; and I must beg to decline the subject. Mrs. Perreau and Dr. Brooke, in a few minutes, called him away ; he returned when they were gone ; said, he had given the doctor my diamond necklace to *silence* him, and that Sir Thomas Frankland had been there also, and promised on condition of his demand being satisfied by the assignment of the house, jewels, and other effects, that he would not prosecute. After telling me this, he left me. Daniel coming to visit him that night, was detained at the suit of Dr. Brooke. I saw nothing of either till the Tuesday morning, when they surprized me in my apartment. The unexpected appearance of Daniel, a prisoner, and in chains, drew from me a scream of horror ; I covered my eyes, unable to support the heart-rending sight. They said, " This is a most serious busineſſ, Caroline, our *lives* are in your hands, we trust you will not discover any thing to endanger them." I replied, by insisting on their withdrawing instantly, adding, as to you Mr. Robert Perreau, after what you have done, I will hold no conversation whatever with you : and as to you Mr. Perreau, (addressing Daniel) if you have any thing to say or propose relative to our children or domestic

meestic concerns, I am willing to hear it, provided some one is present to witness what passes ; otherwise, I desire you'll leave me immediately : on which they both left the room.

This interview had shocked me so much, I was scarcely in my senses for hours afterwards ; and to augment my wretchedness several people came from talking to them, and reported they were traducing me in the most terrible terms.

Particularly Mr. Gale the upholsterer said, Daniel told him, " He would not regard being hanged himself, if he could but have the pleasure to hang me first." The reader will conceive how infinitely I must be shocked on hearing of this horrid speech. The following day (Wednesday the 15th) the Perreaus and I were brought before the sitting magistrates at New Guild-Hall, Westminster, where M^{es}rs. Drummonds, Sir Thomas Frankland, and Dr. Brooke, appeared, and, together with other persons as witnesses, gave evidence against Robert and Daniel Perreau. After the whole examination was gone through, I was in the PRESENCE and HEARING OF the said prosecutors, asked if I would inform the bench what I knew relative to the matter (the bench having no manner of charge, as I firmly believe, against me to justify my being committed for prosecution). I

I was then sworn, and gave evidence; but there not being time to take my examination fully, I was remanded back to prison; and on the Friday following, was brought up to the public office in Bow-street, and there, as I verily believe again, nothing appeared against me to justify my being committed for prosecution.

After being, with the most pathetic eloquence and awful solemnity, interrogated by the Bench, and admonished of the serious consequence of *what* I was going to declare, as *it* might affect the lives of two men, and also the danger and fatal consequences to myself, if I then misrepresented or suppressed *any* thing I knew relative to the forgeries. I was again sworn, and my examination taken in writing; and I then entered into recognizance, with sureties, to appear and give evidence against the Messrs. Perreaus, at the Old Bailey.

I was afterwards informed the recognizances were taken by mistake for Westminster instead of Hick's-Hall; but on receiving notice from the solicitor for the prosecution, that the bills were to be preferred at Hick's-Hall, and my attendance there to give evidence required. I accordingly attended, *though I was not by my recognizances bound so to do*, and declined availing myself thereof. When I came

came to Hicks's-Hall, the said solicitor caused my name to be put on the bills of indictment, and I accordingly gave evidence before the grand jury. Afterwards the prosecutors, their witnesses, and myself, were called into court, where we all and severally entered into recognizances to give evidence at the Old Bailey on the indictments then found. Agreeable to this I attended at the Old Bailey to give evidence, and received notice in writing so to do from the prosecutor's solicitor, and waited there during the whole time of the trial of Robert Perreau ; and being, after the same was over, sent for into court, was, to my great surprise and astonishment, ordered into custody.

THE

THE Public may be assured that the publication of this Narrative was not through any sinister motives : urged by a just sense of my own innocence ; the cruel and false aspersions thrown against me, I submit the real circumstantial detail of facts to the public inspection. My proceedings in respect to the Perreas, have been sufficiently justified in the public papers, and in this Narrative ; and actuated by a humane principle for the man I once looked

ed upon in the tenderest tye,
I refused laying open to the
world private and particular
circumstances (now related)
which might have been look-
ed upon as *prejudications* a-
gainst those unfortunate men.
The reader will, no doubt, re-
collect, that I even deferred
publishing my third Case,
solely for those humane mo-
tives ; but my present suffer-
ings, the tender pangs of a
mother, her three children,
and the many cruel misfor-
tunes I have met with, too
poignant for description ; join-
ed to the ungenerous and
cruel

cruel invectives, they have propagated in their defences against me, demanded a fair, candid, and explicit narrative of the whole Proceedings, that the public might, uninfluenced, and impartially judge between us.

My present confined and horrid situation; the present heart thread-breaking, and maternal feeling for my offspring; and give me leave to add, the injuries I have received in the opinion of the public against me, I hope will have some weight. This I am conscious of, that *feeling hearts*

hearts will, upon considering my present situation, conceive, and commiserate the woes which I am obliged at present to endure.

I beg leave to sign myself, with the utmost deference and respect, the Public's

Most obedient Servant,

M. C. R U D D.

N.



